Application No. 10/686,013 Paper Dated: February 15, 2006

In Reply to USPTO Correspondence of November 16, 2005

Attorney Docket No. 964-031638

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Please amend claims 1 and 6 as follows.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A fork lift truck, comprising:

a chassis; and

a battery block inside the chassis,

wherein the chassis has a lateral opening for removal of the battery block in a substantially lateral direction,

wherein the chassis includes a beam to which a bending load can be applied and which beam is located on an upper side of the lateral opening in the chassis,

wherein the chassis is at least partly open on the bottom underneath the battery block, and

wherein the space underneath the battery block is at least partly free of loadbearing chassis components,

wherein contact points for the battery block are located on the chassis underneath the battery block, and

wherein the space between a forward contact point and a rear contact point is free of load-bearing chassis components.

- 2. (Original) The fork lift truck as claimed in claim 1, wherein the beam is shaped so that it extends to a front side of the opening in the chassis.
- 3. (Original) The fork lift truck as claimed in claim 1, wherein the beam is shaped so that it extends to a rear side of the opening in the chassis.
 - 4. (Canceled)

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5. (Previously Presented) The fork lift truck as claimed in claim 1, wherein a forward portion of the beam is rigidly connected with a receptacle for a front axle of the fork lift truck.

- 6. (Currently Amended) The fork lift truck as claimed in claim 1, wherein a rear portion of the beam is <u>rigidly</u>-connected_directly with a rear counterweight of the fork lift truck.
- 7. (Original) The fork lift truck as claimed in claim 1, wherein the beam has an at least approximately T-shaped section.
- 8. (Original) The fork lift truck as claimed in claim 1, wherein the beam includes at least one hollow section.
- 9. (Original) The fork lift truck as claimed in claim 2, wherein the beam is shaped so that it extends to a rear side of the opening in the chassis.
- 10. (Original) The fork lift truck as claimed in claim 2, wherein the chassis is at least partly open on the bottom in a vicinity of the battery block.
- 11. (Original) The fork lift truck as claimed in claim 3, wherein the chassis is at least partly open on the bottom in a vicinity of the battery block.
- 12. (Previously Presented) The fork lift truck as claimed in claim 2, wherein a forward portion of the beam is rigidly connected with a receptacle for a front axle of the fork lift truck.
- 13. (Previously Presented) The fork lift truck as claimed in claim 3, wherein a forward portion of the beam is rigidly connected with a receptacle for a front axle of the fork lift truck.

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14. (Previously Presented) The fork lift truck as claimed in claim 4, wherein a forward portion of the beam is rigidly connected with a receptacle for a front axle of the fork lift truck.

15. (Previously Presented) The fork lift truck as claimed in claim 2, wherein a rear portion of the beam is rigidly connected with a rear counterweight of the fork lift truck.

16. (Previously Presented) The fork lift truck as claimed in claim 3, wherein a rear portion of the beam is rigidly connected with a rear counterweight of the fork lift truck.

17. (Previously Presented) The fork lift truck as claimed in claim 4, wherein a rear portion of the beam is rigidly connected with a rear counterweight of the fork lift truck.

18. (Previously Presented) The fork lift truck as claimed in claim 5, wherein a rear portion of the beam is rigidly connected with a rear counterweight of the fork lift truck.

19. (Original) The fork lift truck as claimed in claim 2, wherein the beam has an at least approximately T-shaped section.

20. (Original) The fork lift truck as claimed in claim 2, wherein the beam includes at least one hollow section.